3

- 11 predetermined mark.
 - 7. A tele-inventory system according to claim
 - 2 6, further comprising:
 - 3 at the remote management apparatus
 - 4 counter means for counting the number of images
- 5 of the object commodities which have been labeled
- 6 with the predetermined marks by said marker means
- 1 8. A tele-inventory system according to claim
- 2 2, further comprising:
 - at the remote management apparatus
- 4 pointer means for pointing a particular object
- 5 commodity in said taken images of the object
- 6 commodities which images have been displayed on said
- 7 display means; and
- 8 marker means for labeling said taken image of
- 9 said particular object commodity, which image has
- 10 been pointed by said pointer means, with a
- 11 predetermined special mark.
- 9. A tele-inventory system according to claim
- 2 8, further comprising:
- 3 at the shop
- 4 in-shop display means for displaying a marked
- 5 image, which is the image labeled with said
- 6 predetermined special mark by said marker means and

- 7 which has been received together with instructions
- 8 of the operator by said instruction-receiver means
- 9 of the shop from said instruction-transmitter means
- 10 of the remote management apparatus, so that a sales
- 11 clerk of the shop sees said marked image to make
- 12 arrangements for various processes based on the
- 13 last-named instructions of the operator.
- 1 10. A tele-inventory system according to
- 2 claim 1, wherein said camera means serves also as
- 3 a security camera, which is usually previously
- 4 installed in the shop.
- 1 11. A tele-inventory system according to
- 2 claim 1, wherein the remote management apparatus
- 3 is a mobile information processing terminal to be
- 4 operated by the operator.
- 1 12 A tele-inventory system according to claim
- 2 1, wherein the remote management apparatus is
- 3 installed at a remote place in a different time zone
- 4 from the time zone of a shop place where the shop
- 5 is located.
- 1 13. A tele-inventory system according to
- 2 claim 5, wherein:
- 3 said image-transmitter means and said

- 4 instruction-receiving means are communicably
- 5 connected to a plurality of customer information
- 6 terminals to be operated by individual customers
- 7 of the shop;
- 8 upon receipt of a direction containing the name
- $9\,\,$ of a target commodity from the individual customer
- 10 information terminal,
- 11 at the shop
- 12 said camera control means reads, from said
- 13 database, commodity information with respect to the
- 14 individual object commodity corresponding to the
- 15 target commodity contained in the direction of the
- 16 individual customer based on the direction, and
- 17 controls said camera means in such a manner that
- 18 said camera means takes an image of the target
- 19 commodity; and
- 20 said image-transmitter means transmits the
- 21 last-named taken image of the target commodity taken
- 22 by said camera means to the last-named customer
- 23 information terminal.
 - 1 14. An in-shop terminal for use in a
 - 2 tele-inventory system in which various kinds of
 - 3 commodities in a shop are inventoried by an operator
 - 4 from a remote management apparatus that is installed
- 5 remotely from the shop, there being installed at
- 6 the shop camera means for taking images of object